<viii) The Transport Department, Government of Delhi had, between March, 1390 and November, 1993, checked approimately 11,59' Wth vehicles.

(ix) Private petrol pumps and workshops numbering 120 have been authorised by the Department of Franspon., Govt of Delhi for pollution, checking tuning of polluting vehicles and issuance of Pollution under Con-'trol Certificates. Approximately. 12,01 lakh vehicles have availed this facility between |uty, 1990 and November 1993. Of (hose, 3.25 lakh polluting vehicles have been turnd and pollu tion emitted from these vehicles have been brougb* within the proscribed standards. ,

(.x) It has been decided to introduce unleaded p&trol in Delhi from April' 1, 1995, for new four wheeler petrol driven vehicles fitted with catalytic converters.

Environment clearance of New Coal Mines

1094. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR ACARWALLA: Will the Minister of EN-VIRONMENT \ND FOREST'S be pleased to state:

(a) whether.any guidelines have been Framed regarding quality of coal, particu-larly with reference to the ash content, for according environmental clearances for new coa! mines.

...(b) if so, (he iLuiils thereof and weight- :.o the ash conteni M)al while according environmental clea-rances;

- (c) if not, the reasons therefor, keeping in view that high ash content coal • ends to pollute the environment:

(d) whether any action has been taken or contemplated t° stop mining of such quality of coal which has ash content or more than a specified limit; an^

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE. OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS. (SHRI KAMAL NATH): va) No, Sir.

ib) Does not arise.

(c) Keeping in view that high ash ..content coal tends to pollute the environ ment, several stringent condition-being stipulated to minimise the adverse impacts while according environmental clearance.

<*d)* No, Sir.

(.e) Indian coals by their very nature have a higher ash content compared to those from many countries. It is, therefore, not adviseable to make any stipulations *in* this regard.

Use of Aircraft frum UNDP

1095. SHRI V. GUPALSAMY; Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

'a) how many aircrafts Government took froia UNDP in the past;

(b) rne details of these aircrafts and the RflrBpse for which each aircraft-, was Used in tb'; past;

bow many aircrafts' are presently left with Goveitteent; and

(d) v/!ii;if]'jr there had been any los. of aircraft in Uie pasti if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THB MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Environment and Forests ..received one helicopter and one airplane from UNDP, the details Of which are as under:

1. Lama Helicopter VT-ELY

2 Piper Seneca ITC Airplane VT-E'OZ.

These aircrafts were acquired by the Ministry as part of a UNDP—assisted" project on Modern Forest Fire Control Methods. The project came to an end ia 1990-91, and the aircrafts continued to

remain in the possession of the Ministry, and were used for forestry and affo-restation-related work and Ministry re-lated activities.

On 11.5.94 One Bell Jet Ranger Heli-copter VT-DYP was also received by this Ministry. This feelicopter was initially jiven by UNDP to the Ministry of Agri-culture, Department of Forests during 1967 for **a** project named "Pre-Invest-ment Survey of Forest Resource*'. This aircraft has not been put to use by the Ministry so far. «$ it is aot *f*?\ airworthy.

tc) Two helicopters.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Riper Seneca III aircraft crashed on 25th August, 1994 at a spot near ICarauli village in Sawai Mftdhopur district of Rajasthaa.

Countries fbportaaj Toxte west to India

1096. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government'c attention has been drawn to a newsitem in the Tioneer' New Delhi dated the 18th Oc tober, 1994 under the caption "Australia, US exporting toxic waste t_0 India".

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon;

tc) the reasons for importing the toxic waste in the country;

id) whether Government propose to «jop this import and if so, by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AN© FORESTS (SHRI KAMAL NATH): ta) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government of ladia's officials had discussions with a Relegation from Australia on 18 October, 1994. These discussions were mainly on the present hazardous waste regulations of both the countries and the implication* of Decision fI/12 of the Second Meeting of the Conference of the **Par-**tics to the Base! Convention on the Con-trol of Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal. According to this decision all transbo-undary movement of hazardous wastes from OECD to non-OECD States destined for final disposal is prohibited with immediate effect [ana]" those destined for recycling or recovery operation* are to be phased out and prohibited from 3! De-cember, 1997.

(c) Waste* are imported into the country essentially as a raw material for recycling and recovery of materials such as metals, oil etc. These wastes are usually available at more economical ratej than virgin material. A large number of secondary manufacturing units in India are dependent on such waste* as-raw materials.

(d) and te) The Government of India Ministry of Environment and Forest*, have notified the Hazardous Wastes (Management **tad** Handling) Rules, 1989, which provides for regulating the generation, collection, storage, transport, treatment, disposal and import of hazardous wastes. According to Rule 11 the import of hazardous wastes from any country to India is not permitted for dumping and disposal, However, import of such wastes may be allowed for proce-ssing or reuse as raw materials, after examining each case on merit. Any imp-port of hazardous wastes would come un-der the purview of these regulations.

सिक्किम में आरक्षित वन भूमि पर होटलों का निर्माण

1097. श्री महेश्वर सिंह : क्या पर्यावरण और वन मंत्री 24 अगस्त, 1994 को राज्य सभा में अतारांकित प्रश्न 3843 के दिये गये उत्तर को देखेंगे और यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनके मंत्रालय ने सिक्किम राज्य के भूतपूर्व वन मंत्री द्वारा सिंगवा में आरक्षित वन भूमि तथा यमथंग में वन विभाग की वन कुटीर (फारेस्ट हट) पर अवैध कब्जा करने के संबंध में क्षेत्रीय मुख्य वन-संरक्षक से प्राप्त